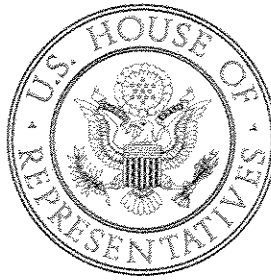


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RULES



CONGRESSMAN KENDRICK B. MEEK

August 1, 2005

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1039 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4506
FAX: (202) 226-0777

DISTRICT OFFICES:
☐ MIAMI-DADE
111 N.W. 183RD STREET
SUITE 315
MIAMI GARDENS, FL 33169
(305) 690-5905
FAX: (305) 690-5951
☐ BROWARD
10100 PINES BOULEVARD
BUILDING B, 3RD FLOOR
PEMBROKE PINES, FL 33026
(954) 450-6767
FAX: (954) 450-6768

Mr. John E. Potter
Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, DC 20260-0010

Dear Mr. Potter:

I write to ask for your personal assistance in providing the 110,000 residents of the City of Miami Gardens, Florida with some sort of official recognition of their city by the U.S. Postal Service.

I recognize the purpose of the system is to facilitate the delivery of mail and that ZIP code boundaries are not intended to mirror political demarcations. However, recent events have made it clear that the system needs to be modified in order to include a measure of common sense to avoid confusion and ensure proper mail delivery.

The City of Miami Gardens was created by a vote of residents, most of whom are postal customers, from a 25-square-mile area of previously unincorporated Northwest Miami-Dade County. The residents of this new municipality are split between 5 ZIP codes, serviced by three different postmasters: Hialeah, Opa Locka and Miami.

My staff has been informed by local postal personnel that the Postal Services has a two-tiered naming system: primary place names identify the location of the postmaster for the area and secondary place names are assigned to more directly identify a geographic area. The City of Miami Gardens has not asked you to change your primary designations, or even to build a new post office to service their new city. Miami Gardens has merely requested that the secondary place names for their ZIP codes be changed to "Miami Gardens" —in other words, to reflect the reality of what exists in Northwest Dade today (see attached letter).

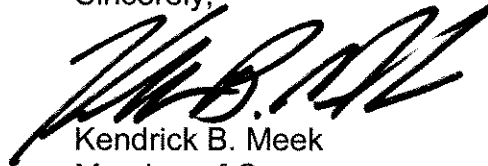
ZIP Code 33056, for example, lies entirely within the boundaries of the City of Miami Gardens. ZIP Code 33056 currently has a primary place name of "Opa Locka" and a secondary place name of "Carol City." The postal service position is that "Carol City" cannot be replaced with "Miami Gardens" as the

secondary name, because such a change would somehow have a negative impact on mail delivery. This position fails to acknowledge the simple fact that no one officially refers to the area as Carol City—except for the U.S. Postal Service. This is like the stubborn insistence of some people that the earth is flat, despite all evidence to the contrary.

As the new City of Miami Gardens matures, more and more residents and business owners are identifying themselves quite naturally as residents of Miami Gardens. As you can see from my official Congressional stationery, my Miami-Dade County District Office is located in Miami Gardens. To make matters even more confusing, in his attached letter dated June 13, 2005, Butch Parker, District Manager for the USPS in South Florida informed the City Manager of the City of Miami Gardens that only ZIP codes 33015 and 33017 could use the name Miami Gardens. Please note that 33015 lies entirely outside the boundary of the City and according to a map I received from USPS, Address Management Systems, 33017 is not even on the map.

I am certain that the U.S. Postal Service wants to recognize and respond to changing facts on the ground. I commend this matter to your attention and ask that you take whatever actions are necessary to correct it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K.B. Meek', written in a cursive, stylized script.

Kendrick B. Meek
Member of Congress



June 13, 2005

Dr. Danny O. Crew
City Manager
City of Miami Gardens
1515 NW 167th Street Bldg 5 Suite 200
Miami Gardens, FL 33169

Dear Dr. Crew:

This responds to your May 16 letter requesting authorization to use Miami Gardens as an acceptable place name in conjunction with ZIP Codes 33054, 33055, 33056 and 33169.

I certainly understand your community's interest in promoting its identity through the use of Miami Gardens in its citizens' mailing addresses. I also appreciate your acknowledgement of the complications of such a request.

Miami Gardens is already an acceptable alternate place name for ZIP Codes 33015 and 33017. Those ZIP Codes are served by the Hialeah Post Office, making the secondary designation of Miami Gardens possible. Although your municipality's official letterhead uses Miami Gardens with ZIP Code 33169, please note that Miami Gardens has not been officially designated as a secondary place name in our database for that ZIP Code.

I hope you will understand that the use of Miami Gardens as an alternate place name for ZIP Codes served by the Miami and Opa Locka Post Offices (33169, 33054, 33055 and 33056) is not possible, as Miami Gardens can only be used in conjunction with ZIP Codes served by the Hialeah Post Office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Butch Parker".

Butch Parker
District Manager

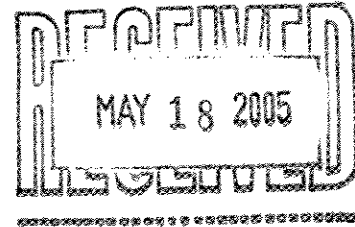
cc: Manager, Operations Programs Support



City of Miami Gardens

Office of the City Manager

May 16, 2005



Mr. Butch Parker, District Manager
U.S. Postal Service
P.O.B. 829990
Pembroke Pines, Florida 33082-9990

Dear Mr. Parker:

I am the City Manager for the City of Miami Gardens, Florida, in Miami-Dade County. We became the third largest city in Miami-Dade in May, 2003. As with any new municipality, Miami Gardens is concerned about our mail and its delivery. I have personally had numerous calls from residents wanting to know when the City will be a primary post office and when we can use "Miami Gardens" as our address.

I understand that the situation is complicated, especially as Miami Gardens encompasses some five or six ZIP codes and is served by postmasters out of Hialeah, Miami and Opa Locka.

I would like to request that for the present time, Miami Gardens be designated as the secondary ZIP Code on the following codes: 33054, 33055 & 33056, [these three are primary Opa Locka, secondary for Carol City. Carol City is now a part of Miami Gardens] and 33169 [Primary is currently Miami with Andover as secondary. Andover is now a part of Miami Gardens].

If any additional information is needed, please do not hesitate to contact me at 305-622-8007.

Sincerely,

Dr. Danny O. Crew, City Manager
City of Miami Gardens

Cc: Congressman Kendrick Meek
Mayor and City Council